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MEDIA RELEASE

RELEASE OF PRELIMINARY REPORT INTO NIUGINI AVIATION PAC 750XL AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT 1.83 NM SOUTHEAST OF SIMBAI AIRSTrip, MADANG PROVINCE, PNG

The PNG Accident Investigation Commission (AIC) today announced the public release of the Preliminary Report for investigation AIC 26-1004, involving a PAC 750XL aircraft, registered P2-RNA, owned and operated by Niugini Aviation Limited.

It is the policy of the AIC to publicly release a preliminary investigation report for each accident or serious incident being investigated within 30 days of the date of the occurrence, pursuant to the requirements of Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation.

On 07 September 2026 at 13:20 local time (03:20 UTC), a Pacific Aerospace PAC 750-XSTOL aircraft, registered P2-RNA, owned and operated by Niugini Aviation Ltd, was conducting a VFR charter flight from Kagamuga International Airport, Mt Hagen, Western Highlands Province, to Simbai Airstrip, Madang Province, when it impacted terrain 1.83 NM southeast of Simbai Airstrip.

There were three persons on board the aircraft: one pilot and two passengers. All three persons were fatally injured. The aircraft was destroyed by impact forces and a severe post-impact fire.

The investigation is continuing and intends to understand the reason for the serious incident. The investigation will also include but not limited to the flight operations, maintenance, Organisational aspects, human factors, design and manufacture.

In accordance with its legal mandate, all AIC investigations are conducted with the sole purpose of improving safety for the travelling public, with complete independence from other State authorities, aviation service providers and stakeholders. AIC investigations do not apportion blame or liability to any person or organisation.

More information about this investigation can be found on AIC's website: www.aic.gov.pg

Authorised for release by:

Maryanne J. Wal
Chief Commissioner